

## Message Text

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TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO CINCPAC

COGARD

TREASURY

GOV GUAM

UNCLAS STATE 237517

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: SEPTEMBER 23 EA PRESS SUMMARY

### 1. INDOCHINA

MCARTHUR (LAT 9/22) REPORTS 1 OF LAST REMAINING AMCITS,  
ARLO GAY, FREED FROM VIET JAIL, FLOWN BANGKOK FROM SAIGON.  
QUOTES GAY THAT HE WAS IN VARIOUS PRISONS SINCE APR 75,  
SINCE VIETS THOUGHT HE WORKED FOR CIA; HAS NO KNOWLEDGE  
EX-CIA EMPLOYEE TUCKER GUGGLEMAN WHO STILL BEING HELD.  
MCARTHUR NOTES UPI REPORT THAT AMCIT RELEASED FROM VN  
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LAST MONTH TOLD HOUSE SUBCMTE OF STORIES ABOUT US  
COMMUNITY OF 200 THAT LIVES IN NVN, SPECULATED MAY INCLUDE  
DEFECTORS, PERHAPS POWS, SOME PILOTS WHO MAY HAVE ESCAPED.  
ADDS US AUTHORITIES SAY CONVINCED NO US PRISONERS REMAIN

INDOCHINA.

ADB ADMITS VN, REPORTEDLY OVER US OBJECTIONS (REUTER MANILA). IN ARTICLE ON FUNDS FLOWING TO 3RD WORLD, HALVERSON SAYS WB IS IN "MINI-BROUHAHA" DUE VN ADMISSION (CSM).

RADIO PP REPORTS AIRLINE SERVICE RESUMES BETWEEN CAMBODIA, VN. SERVICE IS CAMBODIA'S 2ND AIR LINK TO OUTSIDE WORLD; SEVERAL MONTHS AGO SERVICE TO PEKING STARTED (REUTER BANGKOK)  
2. INDOCHINESE REFUGEES

BRITISH TANKER ARRIVES KOBE, JAPAN, WITH 33 VIET REFUGEES PICKED UP IN S CHINA SEA. EFFORTS BEING MADE ALLOW GROUP LAND TEMPORARILY BEFORE GOING ON TO US (REUTER, NYT).

3. THAILAND

SENI SAYS SUBMITTED RESIGNATION THURS, AFTER MEMBERS OWN PARTY EXPRESSED LACK CONFIDENCE IN HIS ABILITY GOVERN (REUTER BANGKOK).

4. PHILIPPINES

EXPECT 1ST RICE SURPLUS IN OVER 6 YRS, STORAGE SPACE SHORT (WSJ). MODERATE EARTH TREMOR SHAKES MANILA, NO IMMEDIATE REPORTS DAMAGE (REUTER, PHINQ).

5. CHINA

WP'S OBERDORFER REPORTS EA'S HUMMEL, IN WEDNESDAY SFR SUBCMTE APPEARANCE, DISCLOSED ROC HAS AGREED STOP ALL ACTIVITIES RELATED TO NUCLEAR FUEL REPROCESSING. CITING US INTELLIGENCE REPORTS OF ROC SECRET ATOMIC EFFORTS, OBERDORFER NOTES TAIPEI PLEDGE, "WHICH DID NOT FORMALLY ACKNOWLEDGE CLANDESTINE ACTIVITY," WAS MADE BY CCK IN UNCLASSIFIED

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SEPT 14 MEETING WITH AMB UNGER AND REITERATED IN SEPT 17 DIPLO NOTE, SUBSTANCE OF WHICH MADE PUBLIC BEFORE SFR SUBCMTE. HUMMEL SAID ANY ROC VIOLATION OF ITS PLEDGES WOULD "FUNDAMENTALLY JEOPARDIZE" US NUKE COOPERATION. CONCEDED ROC HAS ECON/SCIENTIFIC BASE FROM WHICH TO DEVELOP NUKE WEAPONS OR NUKE EXPLOSIVE DEVICE. ADDED THAT HE COULD NOT OVER-ESTIMATE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH USG WOULD VIEW ANY TAIPEI DEVIATION FROM DECLARED US-ROC POLICY (AP'S REPERT 9/22); ASSURED SUBCMTE ADMIN FOLLOWS EVERY ASPECT TAIWAN'S NUKE PROGRAM WITH UTMOST DILIGENCE (REUTER 9/22). ADMIN OFFICIALS TESTIFIED THAT ANY ROC MOVES TOWARD OBTAINING NUKE WEAPONS CAPABILITY WOULD PROMPT SERIOUS REACTIONS IN

PRC; ALSO IN SK, JAPAN, OTHER ASIAN STATES WHICH HAVE  
FORESWORN BUILDING ATOMIC WEAPONS.

OBERDORFER REPORTS ACDA'S IKLE, UNDER SUBCMTE QUESTIONING,  
SAID US DID NOT SPELL OUT CONSEQUENCES IF ROC CONTINUED  
REPROCESSING ACTIVITY, BUT THAT "CLEARLY IMPLIED" BY  
CLOSE US RELATIONSHIP IN NUKE MATTERS. IKLE SAID HE  
DID NOT KNOW WHAT ROC WILL DO WITH SMALL-SCALE REPROCESSING  
PLANT, NOW THAT HAS PLEDGED STOP SUCH ACTIVITIES.

ACCORDING IKLE, US STILL CONSIDERING RECENT TAIWAN  
PROPOSAL THAT 2-3 US NUKE SCIENTISTS BECOME ATOMIC  
ENERGY ADVISERS TO ITS AGENCIES TO PARTICIPATE IN  
PROJECTS IN ALL ITS NUKE FACILITIES. SUBCMTE ALSO  
HEARD FROM CIA'S BUSH RE US INTELL REPORTS OF ROC  
SECRET REPROCESSING; BUT TESTIMONY NOT MADE PUBLIC,  
SENS DECLINED DISCUSS IT.

ROC REPORTS TOURIST TRAVEL TO ISLAND INCREASED 24.5  
PCT IN FIRST HALF 1976, OVER FIRST HALF 1975 -- WITH  
499,167 VISITORS (AP, NYT).

USLO SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCES MANSFIELD WILL REMAIN IN  
PEKING UNTIL MID-OCT; ADDS THAT SCHLESINGER EXPECTED  
RETURN PEKING AFTER TOURING TIBET, SINKIANG, INNER  
MONGOLIA (NYDN).

REUTER (PEKING) SAYS FIVE DAYS AFTER MAO FUNERAL,  
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CITY'S DIPLO OBSERVERS LEANING MORE TOWARDS OPINION  
BODY WILL BE PRESERVED FOR POSTERITY RATHER THAN  
CREMATED. PROVINCIAL LEADERS UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE BEEN  
PRESSING THIS COURSE SO PEOPLE THROUGHOUT COUNTY MIGHT  
HAVE CHANCE PAY RESPECTS. MYSTERY OVER MAO'S BODY  
HAS OVERSHADOWED TO SOME EXTENT DEBATE OVER POST-MAO  
LEADERSHIP; BUT CHINESE LEADERS BELIEVED MEETING TO  
DISCUSS SUCCESSION PROBLEM AND PREPARE WAY FOR FULL-  
SCALE CENTRAL CMTE MEETING.

NCNA SAID THURS THAT US-SOVIET CONTENTION OVER SOUTHERN  
AFRICA "IS STEADILY BECOMING MORE ACUTE." CHARGED  
MOSCOW ANTI-RACIST PROPAGANDA "NO MORE THAN A SMOKESCREEN  
TO COVER UP ITS OWN EXPANSIONIST DESIGNS IN SOUTHERN  
AFRICA" (REUTER HK).

## 6. JAPAN

SOVIET AMB DELIVERS SECOND PROTEST OVER JAPAN'S HANDLING  
MIG INCIDENT; SAYS MATTER WOULD CAUSE "GRAVE CONSEQUENCES"  
TO PRESENT/FUTURE RELS BETWEEN JAPAN, USSR. TERMS JA-  
PAN'S CLAIM IT HAD RIGHT EXAMINE PLANE "GROUNDLESS AND

ARTIFICIAL," CLEARLY PROVED BY FACT "3RD PARTY; ALSO  
TAKING PART (REUTER TOKYO 9/22; PHINQ). DEP FONMIN ARI-  
TA, AFTER HEARING SOV AMB'S STATEMENT, TOLD HIM WOULD  
BE CONVEYED TO FONMIN KOSAKA, BUT MAINTAINED SOME POINTS  
"UNACCEPTABLE" (UPI TOKYO 9/22).

IN FIRST SUCH JAPANESE TRIAL, COURT PROCEEDINGS  
BEGAN 9/22 FOR 2 CHISSO CHEMICAL CORP EXECS CHARGED WITH  
INVOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER BY INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION. AT

LEAST 6 PERSONS DIED, 1,00-10,000 BECAME ILL FROM MER-  
CURY POISONING AS RESULT DISCHARGING CHEM WASTES INTO  
MINAMATA BAY (AP WSJ, NYT; CHITRIB; WSTAR 9/22).

HEAD MITI'S INTL TRADE POLICY TOLD FON PRESS BRIEFING  
9/22 JAPAN MAY RETALIATE IF US/EUR TOOK GOVT ACTION TO  
CURB JAPANESE IMPORTS; BUT ADDED USUALLY POSSIBLE PREVENT  
SUCH ACTION THROUGH INTER-GOVERNMENTAL CONSULTATIONS.  
DID NOT THINK JAPAN SHOULD FEEL TOO CONCERNED OVER RE-  
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PORTS OF MOUNTING EUROPEAN ANGER OVER TOKYO'S EXPORT  
BOOM (REUTER TOKYO 9/22). CULLISON (JOC) ADDS OFFICIAL  
DENIED CHARGES THAT JAPAN'S EXPORTERS ENGAGED IN PRICE  
CUTTING/OTHER ACTIVITIES IN ORDER UNFAIRLY PENETRATE  
FON MARKETS. EMPHASIZED TIME NOT YET RIPE FOR JAPAN'S  
UNILATERAL VOLUNTARY EXPORT RESTRICTIONS.

AFL-CIO'S INDUSTRIAL UNION DEPT, 10 UNIONS, 5 FIRMS  
FILED REQUEST 9/22 WITH ITC FOR IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION  
COLOR TV IMPORTS, URGED QUOTA IMPOSITION. JAPAN AC-  
COUNTS FOR ALMOST ALL US COLOR SET IMPORTS, CURRENTLY  
RUNNING 400 MILLION DOLS YRLY AND TAKING NEARLY 30 PCT  
US MARKET IN FIRST 7 MONTHS 1976 (LAWRENCE, JOC).

#### 7. KOREA

RE WITHDRAWAL RESOLUTION SUPPORTING NK FROM UNGA, REUTER  
9/21 AT UN QUOTED ROK FONMIN PARK AS SAYING REPUBLIC'S  
BACKERS SAW NO "PARTICULAR NECESSITY TO PRESS FOR THE  
CONSIDERATION OF THE KOREAN QUESTION," EXPLAINING PREFER-  
ABLE TO AVOID STERILE DEBATE AND UNPRODUCTIVE CONFRONTA-  
TION.

#### 8. AUSTRALIA

FRASER FOES CHALLENGE GOVT ON NATL DEFENSE POLICY, SUP-  
PORT US ALLIANCE. GOVT CONCERNED OVER LABOR ATTITUDE,  
THAT COULD INTERFERE WITH USN USE AUSSIE PORTS. LABOR  
PARTY CHARGES GOA MOLDS DEFENSE POLICY TO SUIT US GLOBAL  
OBJECTIVES (VICKERS, CSM).

QUEENSLAND GOVT FREEZES NEW CLAIMS, RECONSIDERS DECISION  
OPEN SAPPHIRE FIELDS AFTER RUSH/CLASHES OVER CLAIMS (PHINQ).

9. INDONESIA

AFTER GOVT FOILED PLOT OVERTHROW SUHARTO, REPLACE HIM  
WITH FORMER VP HATTA (CSM; CHITRIB), 4 PLOTTERS  
ARRESTED; BUT HATTA, OTHERS WHO SIGNED DOCUMENTS  
SUPPORTING PLOT, RELEASED AFTER QUESTIONING (WP).  
FORMER AGRIC MINISTRY OFFICIAL, OTHERS, ARRESTED FOR  
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PRODUCING PAPERS CALLING FOR SUHARTO'S REPLACEMENT BY  
HATTA (PHINQ). IN CONFESSION, HATTA SAYS DID NOT READ  
DOCUMENTS CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNED (AP, NYT).

NASH (NYT) REPORTS SCANDAL AS US, UK, JAPANESE IMPORTERS  
RECEIVE BARRELS WATER INSTEAD ESSENTIAL OILS FROM INDO.  
CURRENT WORLDWIDE LOSS ESTIMATED 2 MILLION DOLS. ACTION  
SOUGHT FROM GOI. MANY IMPORTERS SAY DO NOT EXPECT  
MUCH HELP THO GOVT SHARES BLAME -- SINCE INSPECTORS  
CERTIFIED BARRELS' CONTENTS. LONG-TERM EFFECTS COULD  
HURT INDONESIA, SINCE OTHER SOURCES SAME OILS EXIST.

WHITING (CSM) DESCRIBES BALI ART FACTORIES "RUN LIKE GM"  
TO SATISFY TOURIST DEMAND.

10. SINGAPORE

GOVT WILL HOLD GENL ELECTIONS IN NEXT FEW MONTHS (UPI, WP).

INDUSTRIAL BANK OF RI WILL OPEN SEA REPRESENTATIVE  
OFFICE SINGAPORE ON SEPT 30 (JOC).

11. GENERAL

WB SAYS ASIAN GROWTH RATE HOLDSUP DESPITE "HARD TIMES"  
FOR MANY DUE URBAN UNEMPLOYMENT, RISING PRICES, LOWER  
DEMAND FOR SEVERAL PRODUCTS. GROWTH RATES HELD UP IN  
SEVERAL COUNTRIES DESPITE PROBLEMS: SK HAD 7.5 PCT IN  
1975; THAILAND 6 PCT AS AGRIC PRODUCTION RECOVERED FROM  
DROUGHT; BUT IN MALAYSIA, RATE STAYED AT 2 PCT DUE  
DEMAND CUT FOR RUBBER, FORESTRY PRODUCTS. MAJOR BOP  
DEFICITS RESULTED FROM LOWER DEMAND: INDONESIA HAD  
DRAMATIC DEFICIT INCREASE FROM 80 MILLION DOLS TO 1.2 BIL  
IN 1975; PHILS' DEFICIT WENT FROM 207 MILLION IN 1974  
TO 860 MILLION IN 1975 DUE EXPORT PRICE DECREASE.  
INFLATION CONTINUES, BUT SLOWS WITH CONSERVATIVE POLICIES  
IN SK, PHILS, MALAYSIA, THAILAND; INDO INFLATION WAS  
20 PCT IN 1975 COMPARED 40 PCT IN 1974; SK RATE FROM  
42 TO 26 PCT, WITH PHILS GOING FROM 33 TO 10 PCT.  
BETTER ECON CONDITIONS IN BURMA, OTHER COUNTRIES, DUE

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GOOD MONSOON (MORITZ, CSM; STABLER, WSJ). IN BURMA, RICE-PRODUCING AREA INCREASED 6 PCT, TAX POLICIES CHANGED TO INCREASE OTHER PRODUCTION (STABLER). COMMENT AND ANALYSIS  
12. JAPAN

SUN'S SEIDEN STATES MIG INCIDENT ONLY MOST RECENT IN GROWING SERIES DISPUTES BETWEEN JAPAN-USSR. NOTES FOX-BAT LANDING FOLLOWED BY UNPRECEDENTED VIST BY FONMIN MIYAZAWA TO HOKKAIDO FOR MTG W/LEADERS OF MOVEMENT SEEKING REGAIN "NORTHERN TERRITORIES"; ALSO, OTHERWISE "INSIGNIFICANT" CABINET SHUFFLE REPLACING MIYAZAWA WITH KOSAKA HAS ANTI-SOV TINGE, DUE KOSAKA'S KNOWN CONTACTS W/PRC. CURRENT COOLNESS FIRST SURFACED LAST JAN, WHEN MIKI SAID JAPAN MIGHT FINALLY BE WILLING CONCLUDE PEACE/FRIENDSHIP TREATY W/PRC CONTAINING "ANTI-HEGEMONY" CLAUSE SOVIETS BELIEVE AIMED AT THEM. RUSSIANS DESIRE MORE 'ECON COOPERATION'; JAPAN INSISTS ECON AID NOT BARGAINING POINT FOR RETURN NORTHERN TERRITORIES, BUT GOJ SPOKESMAN INDICATED IF THAT PROBLEM SOLVED, THERE WOULD BE "FAVORABLE ATMOSPHERE FOR FURTHER ECON COOPERATION."

PHILA BULLETIN (9/13) QUESTIONS WHETHER RUSSIAN ANGER OVER LOSS MIG INFO WILL ADD TO DETENTE'S TROUBLES OR NOT; BUT ADDS "MILITARY INTELLIGENCE WINDFALL" SOMETHING "NEITHER THEY NOR WE EVER DECLINE,"--THERE EXISTS AT LEAST "THAT MUCH HARDNOSED UNDERSTANDING ON BOTH SIDES."

ATLANTA CONSTITUTION (9/13) QUOTES MIG PILOT BELENKO "LONGING FOR FREEDOM" IN US. NOTES RUSSIAN SCIENTISTS/INTELLECTUALS FREQUENTLY COMPLAIN ABOUT LACK OF FREEDOM IN THEIR COUNTRY, BUT "VERY RARE INDEED" HEAR SUCH TALK FROM SOV MILITARY MAN.

ROWEN (PHINQ, WP) DISCUSSES JAPAN'S ATTEMPT AT TRADE BALANCE. VICE FIN MIN MATSUKAWA "CLEARLY RELIEVED" TELL REPORTER THAT "TURNING POINT" FROM SURPLUS TOWARD DEFICIT ALREADY REACHED. MATSUKAWA ALSO TELLING JAPANESE TV MFRS THEY MUST BALANCE TRADE, BUT KEEP "LARGER RELATIONSHIP" IN MIND, I.E., MAINTENANCE CLOSE/FRIENDLY  
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TERMS W/US. HE ALSO RESTATED GOJ INTENTION ADHERE TO 1975 RAMBOUILLET AGREEMENT--NON-INTERFERENCE W/NORMAL EXCHANGE MARKET CONDITIONS.

13. INDOCHINA

PHILBULL (9/15) SAYS VN PLAYING CRUEL GAME WITH MIA INFO, BUT QUESTIONS WISDOM BASING US VETO IN UN ON THESE

GROUNDS. ON AID, ADDS HANOI OUT OF TOUCH WITH REALITY IN EVOKING PARIS AGREEMENT, SINCE COMMUNISTS FLAUNTED IT, OVERRAN SVN. OPINES MOST AMERICANS THINK THIS EFFECTIVELY SHREDDED C-F AGREEMENT.

SUN NOTES VN ADMISSION IMF, WB. OHINES BEST WAY GET MIA INFO IS MAKE ACCOMMODATION THAT WILL BENEFIT VN. OPINES DIRECT US AID NOT POLITICALLY FEASIBLE, BUT WB/IMF AID WOULD JUSTLY HELP ALLEVIATE WARTIME DAMAGE.

14. INDOCHINA/THAILAND

BRINES (CSM) SEES DEBATE OVER NORMALIZING RELS WITH VN BUILDING UP IN US. OPINES SITUATION COMPLICATED, SINCE VN WAS BEGINNING OF WAR FOR SEA THAT FAR FROM FINISHED, CARRIED REVOLUTION INTO LAOS/CAMBODIA, SUPPORTS THAI INSURRECTION. SAYS HANOI TRYING BLACKMAIL US INTO NORMALIZATION BY MANIPULATING MIA INFO. BELIEVES HANOI WILL TRUMPET US RECOGNITION/AID AS OFFICIAL ADMISSION US FOUGHT "IMPERIALIST" WAR, "LOST," SO PAYING "REPARATIONS; ADVISES US VETO UN PLOY WHEREBY "REVOLUTIONARY" BLOC TRIES WELCOME VN, WHILE REFUSING ADMISSION SK AND SO CONDEMNING ITS RESISTANCE TO INVASION. POINTS OUT NO WAY US COULD REACH ACCOMMODATION WITH HANOI AT PRESENT WITHOUT AIDING RELENTLESS EFFORT TO PUSH REVOLUTION IN THAILAND -- "FIRST DOMINO."

15. KOREA

WP ITEM REPORTS HOUSE SPEAKER CARL ALBERT HAS BLOCKED PASSAGE OF CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CRITICIZING ROKG, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY HIRC 9/1. REP. FRASER SAYS UNCLASSIFIED

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ALBERT'S REMOVAL MEASURE FROM PRIORITY "SUSPENSION CALENDAR...EFFECTIVELY DOOMS" ITEM DUE SHORT TIME LEFT BEFORE CLOSURE SESSION. ARTICLE REITERATES ALBERT-SUZI THOMPSON ASSOCIATION AND DESCRIBES SPEAKER AS "MAJOR CONGRESSIONAL ALLY" OF PRES PARK.

IN SEOUL, SHANNON (LAT 9/22) SAYS WITHDRAWAL OPPOSING KOREAN RESOLUTIONS AT UN HAS ADDED TO "ATMOSPHERE OF CONCILIATION" THERE. REVIEWS MOST COMMONLY-BRUIED REASONS FOR MOVES, SPECULATING ALSO THAT PRC ANXIOUS PRESERVE HARMONY DURING CURRENT ON SESSION, WHILE ITS DOMESTIC POLITICAL SITUATION REMAINS UNSETTLED IN WAKE MAO'S DEATH.

KC TIMES (9/3), IN COMMENTARY "UNEASY US ALLIANCE WITH KOREAN TYRANNY", FIRST SHARPLY CRITICIZES NK BELLIGERENCE, WHICH AFFORDS PRES. PARK "EXCUSE TO RUN AN AUTHORITARIAN REGIME." EDIT THEN STATES PARK'S REPRESSIVENESS RESULTS IN EMBARRASSING U.S. "ALLIANCE WITH A TYRANNY," CLAIMS THAT EFFORTS CAN SURELY BE MADE INDUCE HIM MODERATE HIS "IRON RULE," AND CONCLUDES THAT QUID PRO QUO FOR CONTINUED US SUPPORT SHOULD BE PARK AGREEMENT EASE REPRESSIVE POLICIES.

16. CHINA

GOV CARTER, IN INTERVIEW WITH W GERMAN MAG "QUICK," SAID US "MUST PAY MORE ATTENTION TO CHINA," EE (PHINQ). ADDED THAT USRELS WITH PRC "ARE IMPORTANT TO WORLD PEACE," DIRECTLY AFFECT WORLD BALANCE, AND US HAS "GREAT STAKE" IN "NATIONALLY DEPENDENT, SECURE AND FRIENDLY CHINA." BUT CARTER FELT SOVIET MIGHT EXPLOIT POST-MAO DOMESTIC POLITICAL TURMOIL IN PRC TO PROMOTE "SINO-SOVIET RECONCILIATION WHICH MIGHT BE INIMICAL TO INTERNATIONAL STABILITY AND TO INTERESTS OF WORLD PEACE. ADDED THAT SINCE NIXON OPENED CONTACTS WITH PEKING, SINO-US RELS HAVE "PROBABLY BECOME STALEMATED OR EVEN DETERIORATED TO SOME DEGREE "(REUTER MUNICH 9/22).

JOHN ROCHE (WSTAR 9/22) CAUTIONS AGAINST ANY US "EFFORT UNCLASSIFIED

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TO TAKE A HAND IN THE GAME" OF MAO'S SUCCESSION; "AXIOM WE SHOULD FOLLOW IS GET A BOX SEAT AND SHUT UP." SAYS IF ONE HAD TO PREDICT WHO WILL RECEIVE "MANDATE OF HEAVEN," PLA IS LEADING CANDIDATE; BUT, PARADOXICALLY, THIS COULD LEAD TO BREAKDOWN OF UNIFIED PRC MAO "SO BRUTALLY FORGED, AND ITS REPLACEMENT BY FRAGMENTED COMMUNIST WARLORDISM."

IN BEECH'S VIEW (HK), MAO AS IRREPLACEABLE AS CHOU; ONLY CERTAIN THING IS THAT PLA WILL CONTINUE PLAY KEY ROLE IN COUNTRY'S FUTURE. PLA TO DAY RIDING HIGHER THAT AT ANY TIME SINCE RESCUED PRC FROM CHAOS WHEN GPCR GOT OUT OF HAND. PLA SOLDIERS EMERGED AS HEROES OF JULY DISASTROUS EARTHQUAKE. NOTES THAT, SIGNIFICANTLY CC'S MIL COMMISSION HAS BEEN PROMINENTLY MENTIONED IN ARRANGEMENTS FOR MAO'S LAST RITES -- THIS REGARDED AS UNUSUAL, INDICATIVE OF PLA'S PRESTIGE. WHILE PARTY SINCE 1971 HAS CLEARLY AIMED AT TRIMMING MIL'S POLITICAL SAILS, PLA STILL HAS ENOUGH POL CLOUT TO VETO ANY MAJOR DECISIONS NOT TO ITS LIKING (CDN 9/18-19). KISSINGER

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